Do I qualify for a *free* colonoscopy through this program?

- ♦ I am 50 years or older and ...
- I've been a Wyoming resident for at least one year.
- ◆ My household is under 250% of the federal poverty guideline (guidelines available on our web site).
- ◆ I am uninsured or I have insurance but can't get screened because I have a high deductable or co-pay.
- I am not currently on Medicaid or Medicare.
- I've not had a colonoscopy within the past 10 years <u>or</u> I previously had one and had pre-cancerous polyps or it was negative and I now have symptoms of colorectal cancer.

Note: People under age 50 who have previously had colorectal cancer or precancerous polyps, or who have a strong family of colorectal cancer, or certain hereditary risk factors might also qualify for this program and are encouraged to visit with their healthcare provider to discuss their increased risk and to see if they need to be screened/re-screened.

For many people cost is the number one barrier to screening for colorectal cancer with a colonoscopy. A colonoscopy can cost up to \$5,000. The Wyoming Colorectal Cancer Screening Program was created in 2007 by an act of the Wyoming Legislature to help pay for colonoscopies for Wyoming residents.

For more information contact:

Wyoming Colorectal Cancer Screening Program

6101 Yellowstone Rd. Suite 510 Cheyenne, WY 82002 Phone: 1-866-205-5292

Fax: 1-307-777-1950

Enroll online: https://ccedp.health.wyo.gov

Website:

www.health.wyo.gov/phsd/ccp





WYOMING COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING PROGRAM

Wyoming Department of Health



If you are over age 50, have you had a colonoscopy to screen for colorectal cancer? If not, is lack of insurance/cost preventing you from screening? If so call us!

1-866-205-5292

What is Colorectal Cancer?

Colorectal cancer is cancer that occurs in the colon or rectum. The colon is the large intestine or large bowel. The rectum is the passageway connecting the colon to the anus (the outside opening).

Why do I need to get screened?

Colorectal cancer usually starts from polyps in the colon or rectum. A polyp is a growth of tissue that shouldn't be there. Over time, some polyps can turn into cancer. A colonoscopy can find polyps, so they can be removed *before* they turn into cancer. A colonoscopy can also find colorectal cancer early, when there is an excellent chance of being cured!

What is a colonoscopy?

A colonoscopy is a screening test that allows a doctor to look inside your colon and rectum and remove polyps and small cancers.

Just the Facts...

Every year, almost 250 Wyoming men and women are diagnosed with colorectal cancer. Colorectal cancer is the second highest cancer killer of adults in our state (males & females combined), second only to lung cancer. Most of the cancers occur in people age 50 or older.

What are the symptoms of colorectal cancer?

- ♦ Dark or black colored stools
- Blood in toilet after having a bowel movement
- ◆ Cramping pain in the lower stomach/abdomen
- Urge to have a bowel movement when there is no need to have one
- Change in bowel habits lasting more than a few days
- Unintentional/unexplained weigh loss
- Fatigue or anemia without an identified cause

Colorectal cancer often has no symptoms at first, so beginning screening at age 50, even when you feel fine is very important!



Are you at increased risk for colorectal cancer?

If you answer **YES** to any of these questions, you are more likely to develop colorectal cancer:

- ♦ Are you 50 years of age or older?
- ♦ Has a close family member (parent, brother, sister or child) had cancer of the colon or rectum?
- ♦ Have you previously had polyps (growths) in your colon or rectum?
- ◆ Have you had colorectal cancer in the past?
- ♦ Were you diagnosed with ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) several years ago?